

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4 and 6 to 11 are currently pending in the application. Claim 3 was previously withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected species and has been canceled by this amendment to place the application in condition for immediate allowance. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended by this amendment in light of the suggested draft claim kindly provided by the Examiner on pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action.

Claims 1, 3, 4 and 6 to 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In addition, claims 1 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because they do not produce a “useful, concrete and tangible” result. In response, independent claims 1 and 4 have been amended to correspond to the Examiner’s suggested draft claim and, as amended, it is believed that these rejections have been overcome.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, that claims 1, 4 and 6 to 11 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Lamont Whitham", is written over a horizontal line.

C. Lamont Whitham
Reg. No. 22,424

Whitham, Curtis, Christofferson & Cook, P.C.
11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340
Reston, VA 20190

Tel. (703) 787-9400
Fax. (703) 787-7557

Customer No.: 30743